

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE
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FOR RELEASE
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HEARING SCHEDULED AND SPECIAL MASTERS APPOINTED IN MATTER CONCERNING JUDGE BRUCE CLAYTON MILLS

On November 5, 2012, the Commission on Judicial Performance announced it had instituted formal proceedings to inquire into matters concerning Judge Bruce Clayton Mills, a judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Contra Costa. The hearing has been scheduled to begin on Tuesday, February 19, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. in the courtroom of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit at 95 Seventh Street in San Francisco, California. The hearing will be open to the public.

Under the rules that govern Commission proceedings, the hearing will be conducted by special masters appointed by the Supreme Court: Hon. Dennis M. Perluss, Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division Seven; Hon. Gail A. Andler, Superior Court of California, County of Orange; and Hon. Vincent J. O'Neill, Jr., Superior Court of California, County of Ventura.

At the hearing, the parties will have an opportunity to introduce evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses. Gary Schons, Esq. has been designated as examiner. Judge Mills is represented by attorney James A. Murphy, of Murphy, Pearson, Bradley & Feeney, of San Francisco, California.

Following completion of the hearing, the special masters will provide the commission with a report containing their findings with respect to the charges. The parties will have an opportunity to respond to the report through briefing and argument before the commission. If the commission determines that the charges are proved by clear and convincing evidence, it is empowered to impose discipline as provided in the California Constitution. Charges that the commission determines are not proved will be dismissed.

The commission is composed of three judges, two lawyers, and six public members. The Chairperson is Mr. Lawrence J. Simi of San Francisco, California.

For further information about the Commission on Judicial Performance, see the commission's web page at www.cjp.ca.gov.